

(b) bleaching the chemical cellulose pulp from step (a) in at least one bleaching stage with chlorine, chloride dioxide, ozone, or peracid.

30. A method of treating and bleaching chemical cellulose pulp produced by alkaline delignification and having a kappa number under 24, having hexenuronic acid therein, comprising the steps of:

(a) treating chemical cellulose pulp produced by alkaline delignification having a kappa number under 24 and at a solids consistency between 0.1-50% by treating the pulp at a temperature over 85°C and at a pH between about 2-5 for sufficient time to remove at least about 50% of the hexenuronic acid and to decrease the kappa number of the pulp by at least 2 units;

(b) treating the pulp with a chelating agent; and

(c) bleaching the pulp in at least one bleaching stage with peroxide.

31. A method of treating and bleaching chemical cellulose pulp produced by alkaline delignification and having a kappa number under 24, having hexenuronic acid therein, comprising the steps of:

(a) treating chemical cellulose pulp produced by alkaline delignification having a kappa number under 24 and at a solids consistency between 0.1-50% by treating the pulp at a temperature over 85°C and at a pH between about 2-5 for at least a time t, where $t = 0.5 \exp(10517/(T+273) - 24)$ to remove at least about 50% of the hexenuronic acid and to decrease the kappa number of the pulp by at least 2 units; and